

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 02560 181107Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----181109 092853 /11

O 180958Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6198

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 2560

STADIS////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

FOR HOLBROOKE, KATZ AND GEORGE ALDRICH FROM SULLIVAN

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAIR, RP, US  
SUBJECT: US-RP CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS

REF: MANILA 2230

1. SEPARATE CABLE WILL REPORT THAT AVIATION NEGOTIATING  
TEAM CURRENTLY VISITING HERE FROM WASHINGTON HAS ACHIEVED  
CONFRONTATION WITH FILIPINOS ON US-GOP AVIATION POLICY.  
ISSUE IS PRECIPITATED BY USCAB THREAT TO REJECT PAL  
APPLICATIONS FOR ALL-CARGO FLIGHTS TO U.S. I AM  
ATTEMPTING SEE PHIL CAB CHAIRMAN TOMORROW IN EFFORT  
RETRIEVE SITUATION, BUT HAVE LITTLE HOPE OF SUCCESS.

2. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT USCAB INTENDS TAKE ACTION  
FEB. 18 RPT 18 WASHINGTON TIME WHICH WILL FACE PRESIDENT  
CARTER WITH HAVING TO MAKE A DECISION WHICH I BELIEVE IS A  
VIOLATION OF OUR CURRENT AGREEMENT WITH THE PHILIPPINES.  
SINCE IT WILL BE THE FIRST ACTION BY THE NEW PRESIDENT  
DIRECTLY AFFECTING THE PHILIPPINES, I FEEL DEPARTMENT HAS  
AN OBLIGATION TO PROTECT HIM FROM THIS MISTAKE BEING MADE.  
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3. IN ESSENCE, WE ARE OBLIGED UNDER OUR AGREEMENT TO  
GIVE APPROVAL TO PAL APPLICATIONS. SUCH APPLICATION WILL  
BE APPROVED UNLESS USCAB INTERPOSES OBJECTION. ACCORDING  
TO U.S. LAW, USCAB MUST ACT BY FEB. 18 IF IT IS TO  
RECOMMEND PRESIDENTIAL REJECTION. THIS WORD WAS GIVEN TO  
FILIPINOS WITH ONLY 24 HOUR NOTICE AND THEY ARE

UNDERSTANDABLY AGITATED. PAL THREATENS LAW SUIT WHICH I WOULD EXPECT THEM TO WIN. THEY HAVE ALSO MADE VEILED THREATS OF RETALIATION, WHICH WOULD PROBABLY LIFT FLYING TIGER OPERATIONAL RIGHTS HERE. USCAB REPRESENTATIVE INDICATES THAT HE WOULD THEN RECOMMEND U.S. RETALIATION AGAINST PAL PASSENGER SERVICE AND WHOLE ISSUE WOULD SPIRAL DOWN INTO NEEDLESS IMBROGLIO.

4. THIS IS AN EGREGIOUS EXAMPLE OF USING A SLEDGE HAMMER TO TRY TO KILL A FLY. USCAB RECOMMENDATION WILL BE PUBLICIZED AS SOON AS IT IS MADE AND PRESIDENT WILL BE PUT IN POSITION EITHER OF HAVING TO REPUDIATE USCAB OR TAKE AN ACTION WHICH WILL EMBITTER U.S. PHIL RELATIONS OVER A MATTER OF MINOR CONSEQUENCE, ACTING ON GROUNDS WHICH I BELIEVE ARE LEGALLY UNSOUND.

5. I FEEL STRONGLY THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S FIRST OFFICIAL ACT WITH RESPECT TO THE PHILIPPINES SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE OF THIS NATURE. SUGGEST WHITE HOUSE BE ALERTED TO THIS MATTER FIRST THING FRIDAY MORNING.  
SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS, STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS, STADIS  
**Reference:** 77 MANILA 2230  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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